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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTY.'S DOCKET: AGA=6

In re Application of:

Hajime AGA et al.

Serial No.: 09/034,336

Filed: March 4, 1998

For: A METHOD FOR INHIBITING  
OXYGEN-ELIMINATING...

) Art Unit: 1631

) Examiner: M. MORAN

) Confirmation No. 3212

) Washington D.C.

) January 24, 2003

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AMENDMENT

Honorable Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

In response to the Office Action of  
July 24, 2002, for which a three-month extension of time  
to respond is hereby requested, please enter the  
following amendment:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claim 5 as follows:

K1  
5. (Ninth Amendment) A method for inhibiting  
the decrease of naturally occurring active-oxygen-  
eliminating activity in a fresh plant wherein the  
decrease in said activity is associated with processing  
said fresh plant or an edible part of said fresh plant,  
which comprises a step of  
incorporating homogeneously, in an aqueous  
system, at least 1% of an inhibitory agent based on said  
fresh plant or said edible part on a dry solid basis into